

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Original)** A metal cord comprising at least two metal strands, characterized in that at least one strand is welded, said welded strand having an elongation at rupture of more than 30% of the elongation at rupture of an identical strand without weld.
2. **(Original)** A metal cord as in claim 1, said welded strand having a force at rupture of more than 30% of the force at rupture of an identical strand without weld.
3. **(Currently Amended)** A metal cord as in ~~any one of claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, wherein the diameter at the weld of said welded strand is less than 1.2 times the optical strand diameter of said welded strand.
4. **(Currently Amended)** A metal cord as in ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein for each radial cross-section of said metal cord, at least one of said metal strands is not welded.
5. **(Currently Amended)** A metal cord as in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein for each radial cross-section of said metal cord, only one metal strand is welded.
6. **(Original)** A metal cord as in claim 5, said metal cord having a welded part with a welded part length, the other of said strands being not welded in said welded part, said welded part being at least 2.5 times the lay length of said metal cord.
7. **(Currently Amended)** A metal cord as in ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, said metal cord having an optical cord diameter less than 14mm.

8. **(Original)** A metal cord as in claim 7, said metal cord having an optical cord diameter less than 2.5mm.
9. **(Currently Amended)** A metal cord as in ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, said metal strands having an optical strand diameter less than 5mm.
10. **(Original)** A metal cord as in claim 9, said metal strands having an optical strand diameter less than 0.9mm.
11. **(Currently Amended)** A metal cord as in ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1, said metal strands comprising metal filaments, said filaments having a diameter smaller than 1.15mm.
12. **(Original)** A metal cord as in claim 11, said metal strands comprising metal filaments, said filaments having a diameter smaller than 0.25mm.
13. **(Currently Amended)** A metal cord as in ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1, said metal cord being a steel cord.
14. **(Currently Amended)** A metal cord as in ~~any one of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1, said metal cord having a force at rupture of more than 50% of an identical metal cord without a welded strand.
15. **(Currently Amended)** A metal cord as in ~~any one of claims 1 to 14~~ claim 1, said metal cord having a elongation at rupture of more than 80% of an identical metal cord without a welded strand.
16. **(Currently Amended)** Use of a metal cord as in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, for reinforcing polymer or rubber belts.

17. **(Currently Amended)** Use of a metal cord as in ~~one of the proceeding claims~~ claim 1, in elevator or hoisting belts.
18. **(Currently Amended)** Use of a metal cord as in ~~one of the proceeding claims~~ claim 1, in timing belts.
19. **(Currently Amended)** Use of a metal cord as in ~~one of the proceeding claims~~ claim 1, as hoisting cable or control cable or window elevator cable.